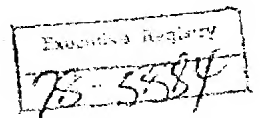


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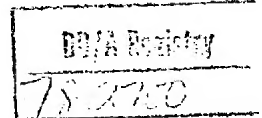
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NFAC #2712/78

5 July 1978



MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence SL
THROUGH : Director, National Foreign Assessment Center
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : Coordinator for Academic Relations, NFAC
SUBJECT : [REDACTED] (Clearance of External Research Projects)

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1. Action Requested: That you direct a working group to review and recommend revisions in [REDACTED] in order to clarify and update Agency policies and procedures for coordinating certain external research proposals.

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2. Background: As the CIA representative in interagency fora concerned with foreign affairs external research, I am responsible for assuring that such Agency research complies with presidential and NSC directives. Among other things, those directives require us to seek State Department clearance for all external research proposals that involve field investigations or contact with foreign nationals as well as those that could adversely affect US interests abroad.

[REDACTED] Agency compliance has been irregular. It is essential that our internal policies be comprehensive and clear and that we make full disclosure--within security limits--as required.

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3. [REDACTED] contains internal policies and guidelines governing our conformance with the reporting requirements. Last revised in October 1969, however, it is now seriously out-of-date. It should be revised to reflect changed Agency organization and practices, new reporting requirements, and the reality that Agency-sponsored external research projects are considerably more numerous and diverse than they were only a few years ago. As that trend continues, the role of the Academic Relations Staff as the Agency representative and coordinator in these affairs becomes more important and should be reflected in Headquarters Regulations.

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4. Although nearly all CIA external research is funded by NFAC and DDS&T, the other directorates should also be represented on a working group responsible for recommending revisions in OGC, and perhaps the IG, should also be represented. A legal, and perhaps moral gray area exists in the apparent conflict between the responsibility to properly inform State of our external research and your responsibility for protecting intelligence sources and methods. New internal regulations should reduce that conflict as much as possible and provide explicit guidance on how disagreements would be resolved internally.

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5. I suspect that once new internal policies and procedures are enunciated it will be advisable for you to inform the Secretary of State of any major changes that occur. Most importantly, the Secretary should understand how and on what grounds the Agency will exempt itself from the reporting requirements when sensitive intelligence sources and methods are involved in our external research. We should anticipate, moreover, that as Agency external research increases in foreign affairs topics, members and committees of Congress will inquire about our policies for coordinating and clearing proposals.

6. Action Recommended: That you direct an Agency working group with DDO, DDA, DDS&T, NFAC, OGC, and IG representation to recommend revisions in Headquarters Regulations (and others as appropriate) concerned with the coordination of external research.

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SUBJECT: (Clearance of External Research Projects)

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APPROVED



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Director of Central Intelligence

DISAPPROVED:

Director of Central Intelligence

13 JUL 1978

DATE: _____

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